

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 18, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Secretary
Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

The Honorable Brian Deese
Director of the National Economic Council
Infrastructure Implementation Task Force
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Mitch Landrieu
Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator
Infrastructure Implementation Task Force
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Secretary Buttigieg, Secretary Raimondo, Mr. Deese and Mr. Landrieu:

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is, unequivocally, a monumental achievement—a bipartisan investment in our nation’s infrastructure that will reverse years of neglect—and it could not come at a more appropriate time. Across the country, Americans are seeing rising prices, empty shelves, and delayed orders as our supply chain strains to meet unprecedented demand. While the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act makes many important long-term and system-wide improvements, it is equally crucial that we meet this moment and expedite funding for the projects that will have a near-term impact on shipping costs and supply chain delays, thereby lowering prices for American families, seniors, and businesses.

To this end, we respectfully request that you provide detailed information regarding how the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is being implemented, especially what is being done to increase capacity in the near-term at every step of the supply chain, from marine terminals to intermodal railyards to warehouses, trucking, and last-mile delivery. Moreover, we urge you to prioritize funding for projects that would provide near-term solutions to the present supply chain crisis—building pop-up container yards, lengthening operating hours, expanding port gate access points, modernizing cranes and other systems, and aligning data sharing between different entities at coastal ports, like New York, Savannah, and Los Angeles, and at inland rail hubs, like Chicago.

In November, the White House announced that the \$17 billion allocated to ports and waterways in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act would “*deliver near-term assistance*” as well as “make long-term investments to strengthen supply chain resiliency.” We were encouraged to see the White House take this approach and request more information on the specifics of this “near-term assistance.” While it has been only two months since this bill was signed into law, the current situation demands immediate, targeted action.

As a result of the supply chain crisis, rising prices have put financial pressure on many Americans, especially low-income households. While we may expect these inflationary pressures to subside over the next year, we also must be cognizant that consumers’ expectations of sustained inflation could produce a dangerous cycle of rising wages and prices, known as a wage-price spiral. It is therefore critically

important that immediate improvements be made across the supply chain to expand capacity and bring down shipping costs as soon as possible.

We, the undersigned, voted to pass the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act because we believe this bill will revitalize the foundations of this great nation, helping to create millions of good-paying jobs and enabling us to compete in the global economy of the 21st Century. Now, amid the current crisis, the necessity and urgency of these investments is unquestionably clear.

Thank you for your attention to this critically important matter.

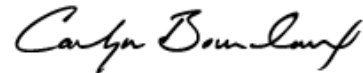
Sincerely,



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Antonio Delgado
Member of Congress



Carolyn Bourdeaux
Member of Congress

Cindy Axne
Member of Congress

Susan Wild
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress

Kathy Manning
Member of Congress

Ed Case
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress

Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress

Haley Stevens
Member of Congress

Rick Larsen
Member of Congress

Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress

Dean Phillips
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress

Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress